

Research Task Force on Research Standards for Chronic Low Back Pain

- NIH Pain Consortium
 - Annual Scientific Meeting
 - May 29, 2014



National Center for
Complementary and
Alternative Medicine



Challenge of Back Pain Research

- Major health problem affecting entire population
 - Appears to be getting worse
- Very expensive to diagnose & treat
- Large majority (> 80%) are ultimately diagnosed as “non-specific” low back pain (i.e., no specific etiology)
- Outcomes are not satisfactory to anyone



NIH Pain Consortium efforts on Back Pain Research



Workshops on Back Pain

- 2009 – Non-Pharmacological Management of Back Pain
- 2010 – Deconstructing Back Pain

Task Force for Research Standards on Low Back Pain

- 2012 – convened Task Force

Task Force Process



- Pain Consortium -> Steering Committee
 - Invited 16 scientific/clinical experts on cLBP research
 - Task Force chaired by Rick Deyo & Sam Dworkin
 - 3 face-to-face meetings over 14 months
 - Outcome
 - Recommendation for a set of **Research Standards** for all clinical research on cLBP
 - Definition of chronic LBP
 - Sub-classification of cLBP by impact & prognosis
 - Minimum Dataset
 - Concept framework based on NINDS Common Data Elements (CDE)

Research Standards for cLBP now published



- Task Force report available:
 - NIH Pain Consortium website (www.painconsortium.nih.gov)
- Manuscript published via multiple journals
 - *Journal of Pain*
Forthcoming
 - *Clinical Journal of Pain*
 - *European Spine Journal*
 - *Pain Medicine*
 - *Spine*
 - *The Spine Journal*

<http://iprcc.nih.gov/>

